

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS::

Sub B 1. A signal processing device for multiplexing first and second bit streams comprising:

a dividing means for dividing said second bit stream into predetermined units;

an adding means for adding a start code to each of said units obtained by dividing said second bit stream; and

a multiplexing means for defining a user operable region in said first bit stream and multiplexing and recording at least part of said second bit stream on said user operable region.

2. The signal processing device according to claim 1, wherein said start code includes time information and said multiplex means multiplexes and records said first and second bit streams having same time information.

3. The signal processing device according to claim 2, wherein said time information is the display time when the bit streams are displayed or the decoding time when the bit streams are decoded.

4. The signal processing device according to claim 1, wherein said dividing means divides said second bit stream into units of frames or those of a plurality of frames.

5. A signal processing method for multiplexing first and second bit streams comprising:

a dividing step for dividing said second bit stream into predetermined units;

an adding step for adding a start code to each of said units obtained by dividing said second bit stream; and

a multiplexing step for defining a user operable region in said first bit stream and multiplexing and recording at least part of said second bit stream on said user operable region.

6. The signal processing method according to claim 5, wherein said start code includes time information and said multiplex step multiplexes and records said first and second bit streams having same time information.

7. The signal processing method according to claim 6, wherein said time information is the display time when the bit streams are displayed or the decoding time when the bit streams are decoded.

8. The signal processing method according to claim 5, wherein said dividing step divides said second bit stream into units of frames or those of a plurality of frames.

9. A recording medium storing a program for multiplex first and second bit streams, said program comprising:

a dividing step for dividing said second bit stream into predetermined units;

an adding step for adding a start code to each of said units obtained by

dividing said second bit stream; and

a multiplexing step for defining a user operable region in said first bit stream and multiplexing and recording at least part of said second bit stream on said user operable region.

10. The recording medium according to claim 9, wherein said dividing step divides said second bit stream into units of frames or those of a plurality of frames.

11. A decoding device adapted to decoding a multiplexed bit stream obtained by defining a user operable region in a first bit stream and multiplexing and recording at least part of a second bit stream on said user operable region, said decoding device comprising:

a means for detecting the user operable region in said multiplexed bit stream and extracting the data contained in said user operable region;

a converting means for conducting a predetermined converting operation on said data contained in said user operable region and restoring the second bit stream; and

a decoding means for decoding said first bit stream contained in said multiplex bit stream except said user operable region and said second bit stream.

12. A decoding method adapted to decoding a multiplexed bit stream obtained by defining a user operable region in a first bit stream and

multiplexing and recording at least part of a second bit stream on said user operable region, said decoding method comprising:

a step for detecting the user operable region in said multiplexed bit stream and extracting the data contained in said user operable region;

a step for conducting a predetermined converting operation on said data contained in said user operable region and restoring the second bit stream; and

a step for decoding said first bit stream contained in said multiplex bit stream except said user operable region and said second bit stream.

13. A recording medium storing a program for decoding a multiplexed bit stream obtained by defining a user operable region in a first bit stream and multiplexing and recording at least part of a second bit stream on said user operable region, said program comprising:

a step for detecting the user operable region in said multiplexed bit stream and extracting the data contained in said user operable region;

a step for conducting a predetermined converting operation on said data contained in said user operable region and restoring the second bit stream; and

a step for decoding said first bit stream contained in said multiplex bit stream except said user operable region and said second bit stream.